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ARRCOM, Inc.
Drexler Enterprises, Inc.
George Drexler, President

Barbara Lithier
Assistant Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region X
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

February 27, 1984

Dear Ms. Lithier:

This letter is to confirm your telephone conversation with my wife, Hazel Drexler, and also to restate the many points in my first letter mailed after the beginning of the year that you failed to receive.

This is my second letter I have written you, and inasmuch as my first correspondence was never returned to me I cannot help but believe it was received by your office. I do believe, however, that you probably never got to see the letter. I sincerely feel there is something underhanded going on between Jim Oberlander and someone working for the U.S. government.

First, may I take the issue of the storage plant on "C" Street in Tacoma. I used this plant solely for storage for the Woodland reclaiming plant. All oil was transferred from Tacoma to Woodland until that plant was closed in December, 1981, which stopped us from picking up the Tacoma oil. As you may remember, the Rathdrum Idaho plant was also closed in December, 1981. This was done by a court order by Warren Bingham of (b) (6). Mr. Bingham did this through the court in Longview, Washington, and my son, (b) (6), who worked for me in Rathdrum, Idaho, was forced from the plant by the sheriff of that county. Therefore, there was no way to get into the Rathdrum plant to clean the tanks that we'd used.

The federal government is claiming that the tanks that were used for the acid clay system many years ago, before my company assumed control of the Rathdrum plant, and which we did not use, were contaminated along with the soil around them. They were acid treaters and were never used in our operation. I want to point out that our only function at Rathdrum was to store oil and remove water from the oil. After that it was shipped to Woodland, Washington. The water removed from the oil was emulsified and put into roadoil.

The E.P.A. has referred to thinners that we picked up. May I remind you that all thinners that were collected when we ran the plant were burned to heat waste oil and to remove the water from the waste oil. The water dispensed into steam, was caught at that point and emulsified into road oil. The reason we didn't renew our permits was simple. My company was going out of business.

As you know, the Tacoma "C" Street plant was being operated by two other companies long before I took over the lease. It's a known fact that they handled every type of oil. A man was almost killed by a tank truck explosion, yet the State, the E.P.A. and the U.S. government paid little or no attention. But when Jim Oberlander found that I had assumed the lease at the Tacoma "C" Street operation he assigned me to begin investigating me immediately. Why was that? Why did the E.P.A. and the state ignore the companies that operated the plant prior to me? And then focus on my operation when it was only used for storage?

I'm proud of my record in the oil business. I spent 36 years of my life helping clean up the pollution in the State of Washington. In fact, I had one of the only pollution-free plants in the U.S. Many people in the refining business were told to tour my plant, and use it as a pilot. Authorities from Washington D.C. visited.

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ATTACHMENT 1

Why, in spite of all these facts, is Mr. Oberlander trying so hard to put me and my sons out of business?

Another point I'd like to clear up is the fact that in one of the E.P.A. letters there is a statement saying that Mr. Bingham said Allan Pickett did not have the authority to sign for permits for either ARRCOM, Inc. or Drexler Enterprises. Mr. Pickett was co-owner of Rathdrum Refinery along with Mr. Bundy. At the time Mr. Pickett signed for permits he was acting secretary for both ARRCOM and Drexler Enterprises. I'd like to point out that Mr. Bingham has never owned any of my corporations. Mr. Bingham did acquire some of my Woodland, Washington, operation when he repossessed the property and some of the equipment. However, he had to pay off the Rathdrum property to Mr. Pickett and Mr. Bundy. Mr. Bundy built the Rathdrum Refinery and has told me he is still the owner. Incidentally, I understand that neither Bundy or Pickett have been fully paid.

Another fact that I feel the E.P.A. doesn't understand....concerning the oil refining operation on Fife Street in Tacoma, known as Nally Valley. That particular plant has been in operation for over half a century. First the National Oil and Paint Company operated at the site for 50 years, then Time Oil Company for another 10 years after that. During those years I witnessed them use oil clay for fill as well as use contaminated solvent they picked up from the Boeing Company for fuel. Following this I operated the site for only two years, but when the E.P.A. made their search for contamination, they reported to the newspapers that my company, Golden Penn Oil, was the culprit. Does that sound fair?

I'm sure they thought it would be easier to blame me, (b) (6)
(b) (6). The prior operators at the site probably looked too big to accuse.

But, I'd like to make it clear, during the short time my company worked the site all residual sludge was trucked to the Tacoma City Dump. I'm sure you can check this fact out with the Tacoma city authorities. While it is true we did specialize in re-refining crankcase oil, we did not handle any solvent at any time, nor deal in making paint.

My sons, (b) (6) were both merely employees and in no way should be held responsible. My other son, (b) (6) has his own business, incorporated under his own name, and has nothing to do with Arrcom, Inc. or Drexler Enterprises, Inc.

Also, Ms. Lithier, please be advised that A.N. Foss of A.N. Foss Accountants, Inc., 1201 S. Proctor, Tacoma, WA 98405 has the power of attorney for me and those items pertinent to Arrcom Oil Inc., and Drexler Enterprises, Inc.

Sincerely,

George W. Drexler

George W. Drexler

cc: Regional Hearing Clerk
US Envl Protection AG RGN x
1200 Sixth Ave. M/S 613
Seattle, Wa. 98101

Honorable Judge Thomas B. Yost
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
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